

**Lanesborough Council on Aging
Board Meeting
Mark W. Siegars, CHAIR**

Meeting Minutes July 22, 2019

Attendees: Mark Siegars, Linda Pruyne, William Cook, Lorna Gayle

Also Attending: Ron Tinkham, Finance Committee

Meeting Called to order 10:10 AM

Public Comment: None Forthcoming.

Minutes

Minutes of June 28, 2019 approved. Motion to approve by Mr. Cook, seconded by Ms. Pruyne. All in favor.

Treasurer's Report.

Ms. Gayle reported on the Service Incentive Grant award.

New Business

The Board had a lengthy discussion about affordable housing in Lanesborough. They explored a variety of approaches. Mr. Siegars shared his meeting with Senator Hinds regarding financing options for seniors looking for affordable housing.

Discussion was held about the new Service Incentive grant awarded to the COA. Ms. Gayle explained that it has been opened up to assist any of the COA's in Berkshire County who have projects that they need done, but no time to do it. Initially the grant will develop a REAL ID brochure, host Outreach Meetings for COA's in the County and take and circulate minutes of those meetings. Also, the grant will be following the CENSUS activities in the County.

The Committee discussed strategies to attract younger seniors. Ms. Pruyne related her plan to organize a Pontoon Boat trip around the lake scheduled in August. The Committee agreed that it was the type of activity they were looking for to generate interest in the COA.

Safety concerns for elderly boaters was discussed and Ms. Pruyne and Ms. Gayle agreed to go and assess if boarding and exiting the boats posed a problem. Also, a donation to the COA was felt to be appropriate and it was suggested that it be built into the fee charged for the boat ride rather than as a separate solicitation.

Mr. Siegars will also be looking into the creation of a Friends of the COA.

Board Member's/ Officer's Items

A general discussion of the need for end of life planning for seniors.

Meeting adjourned: 1:40 PM

Next meeting date unscheduled due to family obligations of Board Members.